



SoLiS

Newsletter of the
Southeast Library System

SOWINGS

September 2013

For years libraries have tried to prove their worth; to get the word out that people should come visit their local library. Now libraries have other groups singing our praises and sending people to our doors. With both the Affordable Care Act partnership and the Everyone On initiative, libraries could see an increase in visitors.

In the previous issue, we included some information about the Affordable Care Act and what you should be expecting. That article can be found on page 3 of the August newsletter (<http://www.selsne.org/newsletter/SoLiSAugust2013.pdf>). You won't have to become a health insurance master, you just need to know where to send people to get their process started. We don't diagnose health problems or fill out patron's tax forms, we offer the forms and point out the webpages they should go to – but don't do their work for them. More information should be heading your way later this month and if you didn't listen to the NCompass Live on Sept 4 talking about this, you should go to <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/NCompassLive/> and look for the episode in the Archives. The Healthcare Market opens October 1, so please review the information and be ready for a new type of question that may come to your desk.

Another campaign that mentions libraries is the Everyone On campaign. This effort is designed to help all Americans access free digital literacy training in their libraries and community centers. The campaign comes from the FCC, the Ad Council, and the non-profit group Connect2Compete (<http://www.connect2compete.org/>). You may have already seen television ads during the evening news. You can get more information about Everyone On at <http://everyoneon.adcouncil.org/>. You'll also want to check out <http://www.digitallearn.org> as it has training materials you can point your patrons to learn how to use the computer.

We'll have a wonderful problem, two big initiatives that will be seen many different places telling people to go the library. There's a little bit of preparation needed to welcome these new guests through our doors, but in the end we are doing the same thing we've always done – help people connect to information they need to better their lives.

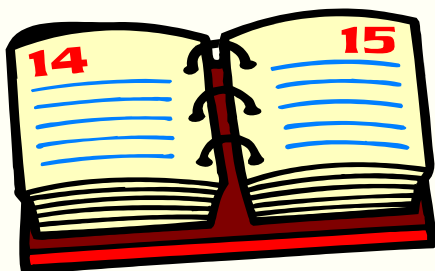
Scott Childers, SELS Executive Director



The group from the Southeast Library System that attended this year's Nebraska Library Leadership Institute in Schuyler at the St. Benedict Center. The retreat took place August 5-9.

**Check out
Southeast
Library System
on Facebook!**





CALENDAR

September 2013

September—Library Card Sign-Up Week

September 12th and 13th—Youth Services Retreat.

September 13th— CASTL Meeting at Auburn Memorial Library.

September 16th—Scott Childers begins FULL TIME as the Executive Director for SELS.

September 22- 28—Banned Book Week

September 25- 28—Association of Rural & Small Libraries Conference. <http://arsl.info/> Annual Conference will be at the Doubletree in Downtown Omaha. Lee Rainie, Director of the Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project, will serve as opening keynote speaker Thursday morning. Nebraska's own Sally Gardner Reed, Executive Director of ALA's United for Libraries, will be the closing keynote on Saturday.

October 9- 11—NLA/NSLA Annual Conference—Kearney. <http://nebraskalibraries.org/conf2013/>.

October 21- November 1— Basic Skills: Collection Management. Registration open until October 11.

November 4- 11— Basic Skills: Programming and Outreach. Registration open September 27 until October 25.

November 14th—CASTL Meeting at Kilgore Memorial Library in York.

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One Book, Many Librarians featuring



On the Rocks

Thursday, October 10 at the NLA/NSLA Annual Conference

4:00-4:50

Younes Conference Center, Kearney

Join Southeast Library System for the 10th Annual **One Book, Many Librarians**.

SELS has a number of copies of *On the Rocks* available. Let us know if you are interested in borrowing a copy!
402.467.6188

Sharing the WorldShare ILL Experience

Libby Munsell, Kilgore Memorial Library, York

You have probably noticed the alert message as you work with Interlibrary Loans, indicating that the WorldCat website that we have all become accustomed to is changing to OCLC WorldShare. I must admit, when I was told about the switch I was nervous to begin using a new website, mostly because I was still learning how to use WorldCat since it was my first year working with ILL. However, I was eager to jump into WorldShare because I knew that eventually, the switch would be inevitable.

I began my experience by participating in OCLC's basic training sessions that taught me the process of borrowing and lending on the WorldShare site. While WorldShare has many different features that cater to library needs, I found that learning how to lend and borrow were the main necessities; I could learn the details as I worked through ILL requests. It took a couple weeks for me to stop using the WorldCat site alongside the WorldShare site to compare the two and get used to the appearance of borrowing and lending with the new service. I am pleased with WorldShare and now find it difficult to revert back to WorldCat! Overall, WorldShare provides a modern and sensible display with user-friendly features to make working with ILL a smooth process.

After using WorldShare for my daily ILL activities, I found it to be easy to navigate and understand. The home page has quick links that automatically direct your attention to current requests and problems that need to be solved. In addition, the home page organizes the links that are most likely to be used in one place, rather than all around the page, demonstrating the site's ease of use. Request links that were one or two characters long on FirstSearch are now a full word or a button, making it easier to click to a different part of the site to find what I need. All the main activities using Worldshare are buttons lined up on the left side of the screen, subdividing into more specific actions with a click of the mouse. Searches for items outside of your library, previous requests that you made, and requests from other libraries stay organized in their own respective sections. The organization makes it easier to notice new requests and to reference older request records.

When I am working with computers, I tend to have a variety of different tabs and pages open at one time. One feature of WorldShare that I really enjoy is that it is possible to have different records open at once and reference them without closing them. For example, I can search for a book that our patron requests and also check to see if a different book has been shipped to us yet without closing the first search. I can do multiple searches and click back and forth between them, never losing my place in case I am interrupted with another ILL task.

WorldShare does a great job of providing relevant information for easy referencing. When searching to borrow an item, images appear with the list of results as well as consistent images that indicate the type of media, such as a print book or an audio book. When looking at the list of materials that our library has out to other libraries, I can see the ID number for the record, the title, the media type, the borrower's symbol, and the date it was requested before I even open the record. When I am requesting a book from a variety of lenders, before I send the request I can see the cost of loaning the material for each library listed next to the library's name. Information is organized in a way that is useful for quick referencing.

While I have not put all of WorldShare's features to use, I have been happy with its service day-to-day and have not had any major problems. It can sometimes be overwhelming to change something that you use every day, but it is possible to learn new things to make a more efficient work environment. OCLC has instructor-led training sessions for those who haven't switched to the new service and are eager to learn more. They also have recorded training sessions if you cannot participate in a live session. In fact, OCLC has added more features to WorldShare since I began using it in December 2012, some of which I plan on learning to use by either going to training sessions or exploring it on my own. Since full migration to WordShare happens this December, I suggest easing into the switch while you have time so you can learn by comparison, attend virtual training sessions, and explore. Good luck to you as you make the switch!

AMONG TREASURED FRIENDS

The SELS Friends are now accepting donations of cash, food, or drink for the hospitality room at NLA next month. Please get your donation to any SELS Friends Board member or drop items off at the SELS office. If you have questions, please email info@selsfriends.org.

Movie dates for private showings are scheduled for *Catching Fire* on November 23 and *The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug* on December 14. Breaking news – we may also have a private showing for *The Book Thief* on November 16. Stay tuned for details on all of the above outings!

A holiday book fair may be worked into November plans as well, so watch for details!

Thanks for your support of the Southeast Library System!

SELS Friends Board

Becky, Tom, Lisa, Karen and Jan

{CASTL Wrap Up}

On August 16 Jan Thomsen, Director of Alice M. Farr Library in Aurora, hosted the CASTL (Conversation Among Small Town Libraries) meeting. Our only agenda item was a workshop provided by Richard Miller of the Nebraska Library Commission to work through some of the strategic planning steps a public library may go through during their accreditation process.

There was a lot of interesting discussion and feedback on the new guidelines, most of it on the strategic plan segment. Some of the highlights of the workshop are:

- One of the resources that will be useful is the American Fact Finder. You can find population, education, and employment statistics on your community that will help inform your plan. You can find it: http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml
- You can use different ways to gather community feedback. Focus groups, surveys, one-on-one interviews are some examples and you don't have to use all of them. Use the tools that work for you and your community.
- You need to have goals that are Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, & Timely.

Another bit of news that came out of the meeting is that the form has now been opened up and you don't have to

wait until your accreditation year to take the form for a test drive and see how you stack up with the current year's statistics. If you filled out the Bibliostat survey, you can log in with that same password.

A word of advice that came out of the meeting for those of you going up later – don't wait until July to start the process. Give yourself some time and start the strategic planning process early! A couple of hours here and there when things aren't so busy will really pay off come October.



CASTL meetings are open to librarians of all types, library trustees, and library friends or supporters. The meetings typically start at 10:00 a.m., and wrap up by 3:00 or 3:30. Each meeting has a dedicated topic of focus, as well as a round robin for discussion and sharing of current issues, topics and library happenings. Attendees earn continuing education hours and you are welcome to join us for all or even part of the day.

- August 16th — Alice M. Farr Public Library (Aurora)
- September 13th — Auburn Memorial Library
- November 14th — Kilgore Memorial Library (York)

Cup Stacking in Palmyra

By Glenda Willnerd, Palmyra Memorial Library

Stacey Damanhoury of Seward and her mother demonstrate the art of relay cup stacking for the audience at the Palmyra Senior Center on Sunday, August 18th.



Nathaniel Larson -Neeman and Grant Tetzlaff practice the cup stacking skills they learned from Stacey Damanhoury, Nebraska State Sportstacking Champion.

Pizza Party for Deshler Summer Reading

By Joyce Schmidt, Deshler Public Library

On Friday evening, August 16, 2013 children who took part in the Summer Reading Challenge sponsored by Deshler Public Library were invited to a face painting and pizza party at Grampa's Crossing restaurant. Points were given out during the challenge and all who had 10 points or more came to the party. Our high reader read 10,250 pages over the summer. For every 25 pages a point was given and prizes were given for 10, 25, and 50 points. We had 20 children at our party and all received prizes as well as enjoying pizza, lemonade, and tea.



Seward is Reading Together

By Charlotte Baldinger, Seward Memorial Library

The All Seward Reads Together program was launched in 2004, encouraging the community to share the experience of reading a common title. Alex Kava's *A Perfect Evil* was the first book and the local readers have been enjoying summer selections each year since that initiation. Mary Doria Russell's historic novel *Doc* was selected for reading during 2013. In July Dr. Sara Crook from Peru State College shared a presentation on the strategic placement of forts on the Great Plains, providing the readers with a sense of prairie politics and government during Doc Holliday's time. Humanities Nebraska speaker Marla Matkin shared a different perspective on small town prairie life during her "Cattle Towns and Soiled Doves" program. Both

informative events were in conjunction with *Doc* and were well attended. The September library calendar has two special dates. On Monday September 9, Seward Memorial Library will host a community book discussion at 7 p.m. Those who have read *Doc* will have time to share their views with others and any unanswered questions can be saved for the author when she visits Seward. On Sunday September 22, the library will host an afternoon with Mary Doria Russell. The library is pleased to have this popular author in Seward and everyone is welcome to join us at 2 p.m. This will be the finale for our 2013 All Seward Reads Together program and we think it has been a great summer for those who took time to get acquainted with John Henry Holliday.

Seward hoists Smackdown trophy

By Emily Hemphill, Seward Memorial Library

Seward Memorial Library was declared the winner of the Summer Reading Smackdown as the competition concluded Aug. 28.

The 179 readers who participated in the contest against Kilgore Memorial Library in York read a total of 2,791 books in three months, beginning at the end of May.

Patrons of Kilgore read 1,989 books.

Patrons who participated by completing a punch card after reading five books were entered into a drawing for prizes, donated by the Friends of Seward Library and local businesses.

Seward now displays the coveted Smackdown trophy, made from books bearing titles of determination and victory.

The contest was the result of a friendly rivalry between Seward Library Director Becky Baker and former Kilgore Library Director Scott Childers. The goal was to see who was reading more on Highway 34.

Childers also donated a morning's worth of work to the Seward library, part of the agreement between libraries at the beginning of the contest.



Scott's Day in Seward!

He cleaned and assembled shelves, put away videos, shifted books in our non-fiction section, dusted, installed a new scanner onto a laptop and more!



Celebrate with Us in Seward

By Charlotte Baldinger, Seward Memorial Library

The "Finishing the Book" campaign is nearing completion and Seward Memorial Library invites everyone to join them in a community celebration. On October 6 at 3 p.m. the lower level expansion will be dedicated. Patrons and visitors are welcome to tour the main floor renovation and the lower level addition. After six months of changes the staff is excited about entering the final stages of this project. Throughout the entire construction period

the library has remained open. Flexibility was the word for our summer. Quiet may be the word for the winter, but until then lots of enthusiastic conversations are expected this fall. We hope you can enjoy this milestone with us.

For construction photos check our website at www.sewardlibrary.org.

Tri County Libraries Updated

By Kim McCain, TriCounty Schools

The Tri County libraries where a busy spaces this summer getting polished up for the new school year. Thanks to our hard working maintenance staff each library has a fresh new look.

The elementary library received a new coat of paint and new lights. It is much brighter with the lights and the new colorful theme "Reading is Sweet Indeed" which features larger-than-life cupcakes, suckers, and candy bars. The M&M sofa donated last year by the Musil family is eagerly awaiting elementary visitors during library time. Storytime is

offered every week to the P-3 grades and library skills are taught weekly to grades 4-6.

The high school also received a fresh coat of paint and new carpet replacing the original carpet when the addition was built in 1996. Oversized

comfy chairs are found in one corner of the library,



as well as a new cafe table and chairs. Other furniture was recovered to go with this year's Husker theme that is dominating the reading area. "Who's "RED"Y 4 Reading and Research" is carried out throughout the library and computer lab. Students have access to a variety of

online resources, ebooks, and printed materials in the library.

If you have sweet tooth or like the Huskers, stop in sometime and check out these revitalized areas that create an exciting environment for reading and research



Southeast Library System

Serving libraries in the counties
of:

Cass • Fillmore • Gage • Hamilton •
Jefferson • Johnson • Lancaster •
Nemaha • Otoe • Pawnee •
Richardson • Saline •
Seward • Thayer • York

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SoLiS is a publication of the Southeast Library System, and is issued once monthly. We reserve the right to screen and to edit all contributions.

September 2013

*"I need to use one of my most
important investigative tools: my
library card."*

*Det. Robert Goren (Vincent D'Onofrio)
Law & Order: Criminal Intent*

Southeast Library System is a multi-type library network with 248 members offering a wide range of service in public, school, academic, institutional and private libraries (Membership list with populations from 2000 Census are on the SELS web page: www.selsne.org.) Membership includes 12 academic institutions, including the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, four private colleges, three community college campuses, a state college and a technical school. Fifty-four public libraries are system members. The majority of these libraries (34) serve populations fewer than 1,000. The system counts 146 school media centers among its members, 54 that are Lincoln Public Schools, with most of those belonging to Class 3 schools (population areas between 1,000 and 100,000). Fourteen of the school media centers are parochial. The system has 28 special and institutional members, most of which are located in Lancaster County.